THE WOODS™

JAMES TYNION IV • MICHAEL DIALYNAS • JOSAN GONZALEZ

VOL. 6
THE LOST

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JAMES **TYNION IV** • MICHAEL **DIALYNAS** • JOSAN **GONZALEZ**

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BOOM! STUDIOS™

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BOOM! STUDIOS

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CHAPTER

TWENTY-ONE

NINE MONTHS AGO.

OKAY...SO, NEXT TIME...YOU GET TO CARRY THE BEETLE BOARS.

A LIKELY STORY.

I THINK MY ARMS ARE GOING TO FALL OFF. ARE YOU STILL GOING TO KISS ME SOMETIMES IF I DON'T HAVE ANY ARMS?

HM...NO. I THINK I'LL PROBABLY HAVE TO START KISSING DOCTOR ROBOT. HE HAS THE NUMBER OF ARMS I'M REALLY LOOKING FOR IN A MAN.

THIS IS A CRUEL WORLD, BUT IT'S FAIR.

GET A ROOM, YOU TWO.

WE'VE BEEN DISCOVERED! WE MUST TAKE TO THE TRENCHES.

HEY, MARIA, HOW'S THE CONSTRUCTION GOING?

WELL, I'VE SET YOU UP WITH THAT ROOM I WAS TALKING ABOUT, SO YOU STOP TRAUMATIZING FRESHMEN. IT'S HOUSE 14, DOWN THE WAY.

GOD, YOU TWO SMELL TERRIBLE. WE'VE GOT A HUGE LINE FOR THE BATH HOUSE, AND THE WATER IS BARELY LUKEWARM, BUT I'M GOING TO SNEAK YOU IN SO YOUR STENCH DOESN'T *KILL ANYONE.*

I THINK I SMELL OKAY?

YOU ARE WRONG.

IT REALLY IS IMPRESSIVE. IT FEELS LIKE A REAL CITY...

MAYBE IT'LL EVEN FEEL LIKE HOME ONE OF THESE DAYS.

I'VE GOT A WHOLE SET OF COUNCIL ELECTIONS LINED UP, AND WE'LL DO A PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN SIX MONTHS.

I CAN'T IMAGINE ANYBODY CHALLENGING YOU.

ESPECIALLY WHEN I GET TRADE UP AND RUNNING WITH NEW LONDON. I THINK SANDER SHOULD BE GETTING TO THE CAMP TONIGHT...

AND ISAAC'S COMING WITH HIM.

OH.

I'M SURE HE STILL DOESN'T BLAME YOU FOR WHAT HAPPENED...

YEAH. SURE.

YEAH... IT'S GOING TO BE A GOOD LIFE HERE. WE'RE GOING TO MAKE SOMETHING SPECIAL.

I CAN FEEL IT.

NOW.

THAT'S HER.

THAT'S MARIA'S BODY.

ARE YOU SURE?

YEAH.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO, SANAMI? WE CAN TAKE HER HOME...

NO, SHE SHOULD BE BURIED HERE.

I SEE A SHOVEL OVER THERE...CAN YOU JUST GIVE ME SOME SPACE TO SAY GOODBYE?

OF COURSE.

VOTE FOR MARIA IS A VOTE

WHAT DID YOU FIND?

NO SIGN OF ANY OF THEM.

THEY STRIPPED THE INTERIOR OF THE SCHOOL FOR PARTS...THEY LEFT THE BODIES WHERE THEY FELL. BUT THEY'VE COVERED THEIR TRAIL FOR THEIR WARSHIP. THERE'S NO SIGN THEY WERE EVER HERE TO ***BEGIN WITH.***

DAMMIT.

DAMMIT!

THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE THE RECONNAISSANCE RUN FOR INVASION. THIS WAS GOING TO BE THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS TAKING OUR PEOPLE BACK.

WE HAVE ***NOTHING.*** WE'RE ***NOWHERE!***

KAREN.

IT'S OKAY, NOBODY EXPECTS YOU TO--

ARE YOU *KIDDING* ME, SANDER?!

I'M SORRY, I JUST WANT TO *HELP* YOU.

...

WE NEED TO GET BACK TO NEW LONDON. THEY NEED TO KNOW THAT THE HORDE COULD BE ANYWHERE ON THIS GODFORSAKEN MOON.

HEY, WHAT'S WRONG?

IT'S NOTHING.

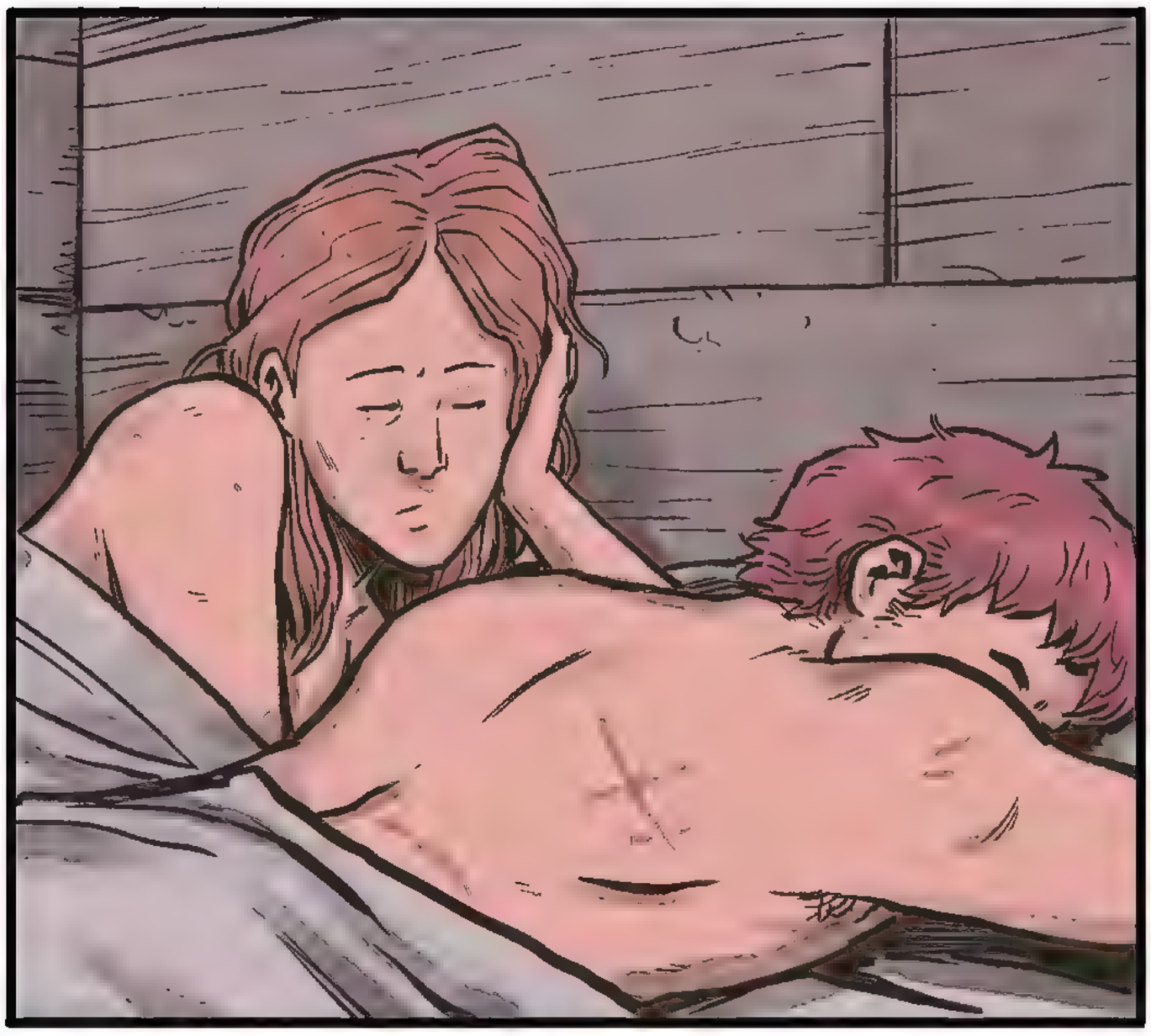
NOPE. I'M SORRY. THIS LIE-DETECTOR SAYS PRETTY FIRMLY THAT--

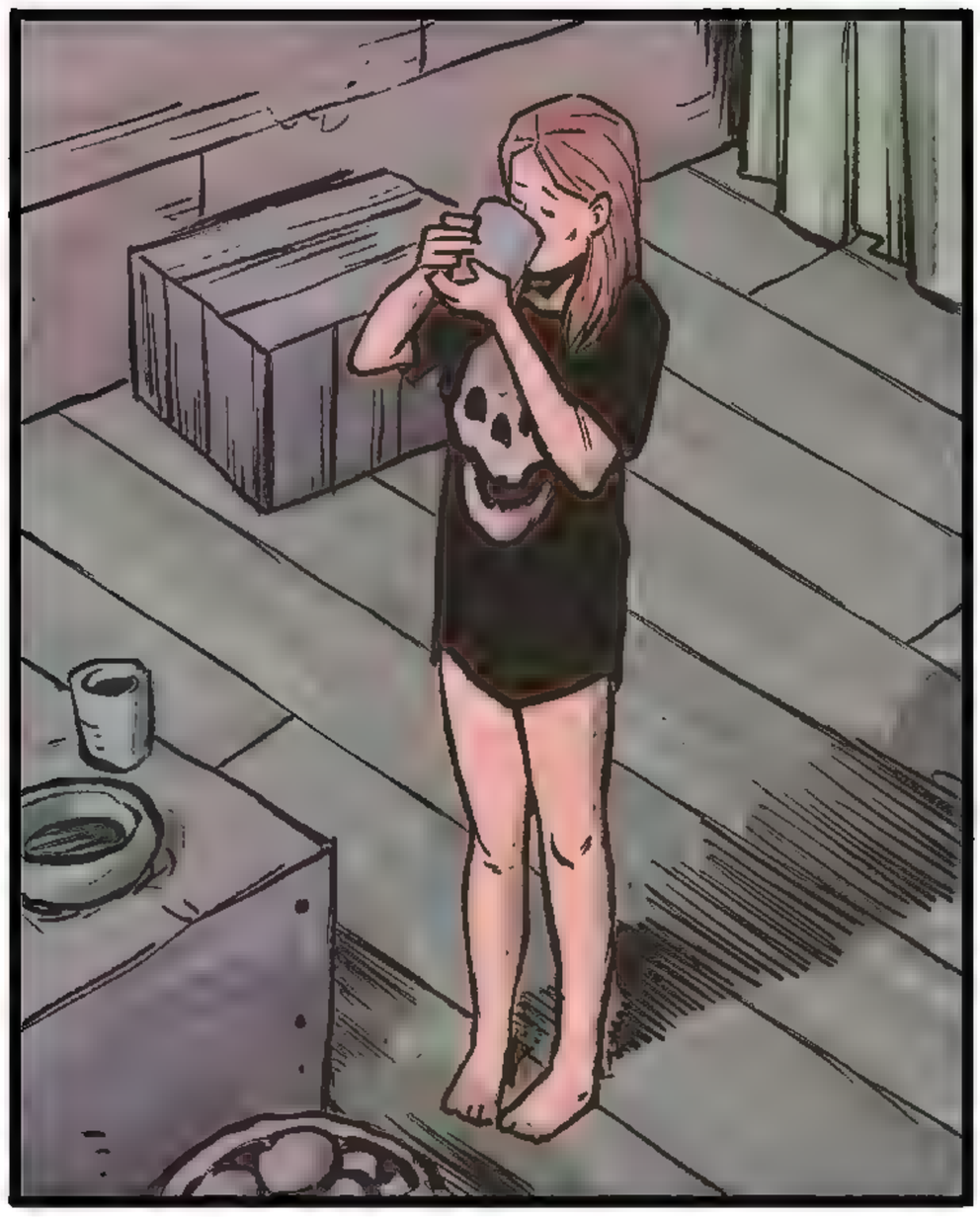
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU?

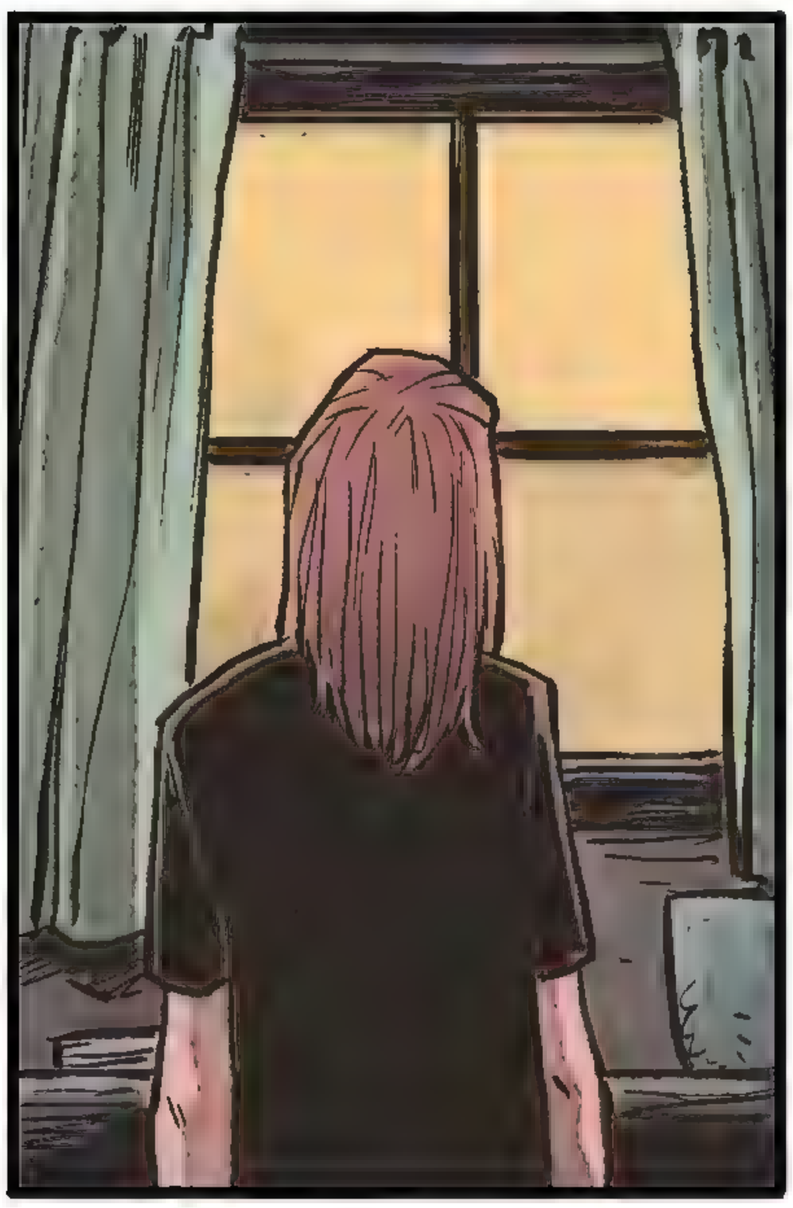
JUST SHUT UP, OKAY?

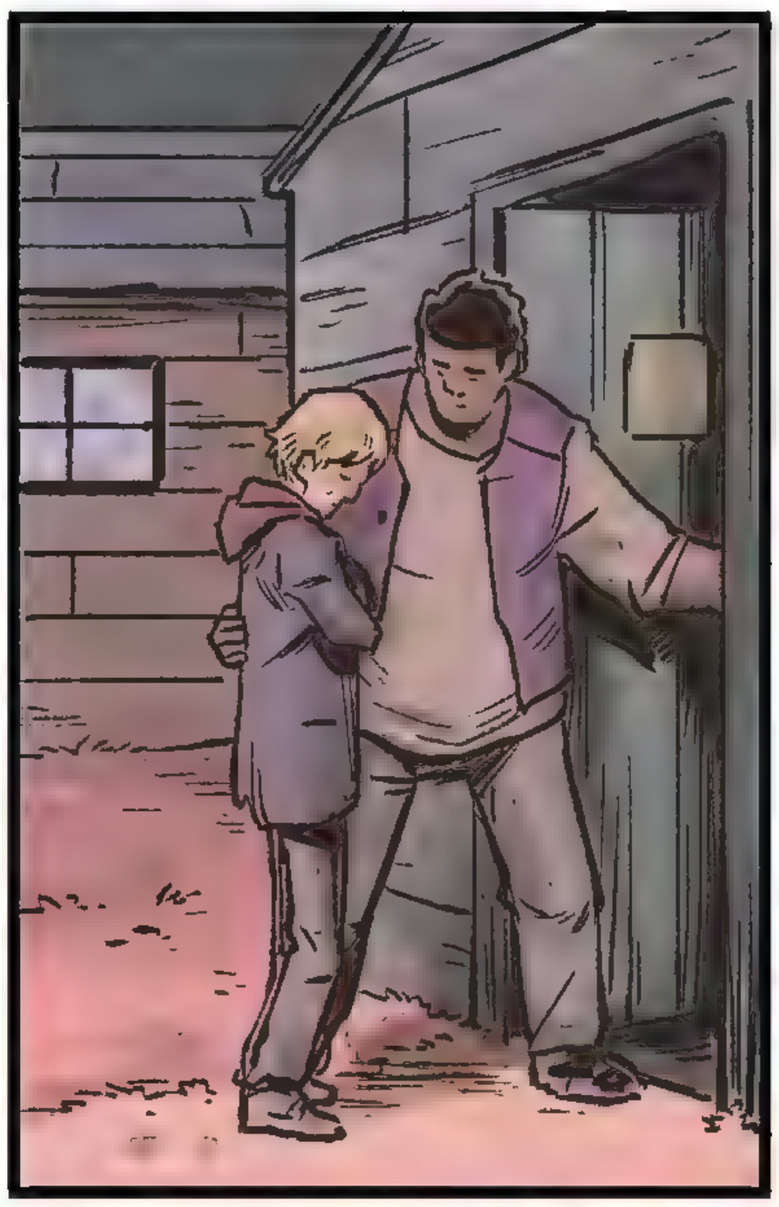
YES MA'AM.

HISTORY VOL. 1









BEN +
ISAAC'S

KNOCK
KNOC

HELLO?

KAREN...

I WANT TO TALK TO YOU.

IT'S NOT A GOOD TIME, SANDER.

...

I'M SORRY, I JUST THOUGHT MAYBE AFTER TWO MONTHS, YOU MIGHT BE HAPPY TO SEE ME AGAIN.

I AM, SANDER! IT'S JUST...THIS IS BAD TIMING.

I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT YOU. THE WAY YOU ACTED WHEN I TOLD YOU THE TRUTH ABOUT ME. THE WAY YOU KISSED ME...

I WANT TO TRY TO MAKE THIS WORK. I KNOW YOU'RE STILL DEALING WITH EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED WITH ADRIAN, BUT--

OH MAN, WHAT I WOULDN'T GIVE FOR A CUP OF COFFEE RIGHT NOW.

OH! HEY, SANDER.

...

BAD TIMING.

DAMMIT DAMMIT DAMMIT.

UH... WHAT'S UP, KID?

DON'T CALL ME KID, CALDER.

WHY WAS SANDER HERE?

IS THERE SOMETHING I SHOULD KNOW ABOUT?

SO. THERE'S NO SIGN.

NOTHING. I'M SORRY, CORRINE...

WE'RE GOING TO NEED TO MAKE PLANS, AND *FAST.* THE HORDE IS UP TO SOMETHING, AND THIS COULD BE VERY DANGEROUS, FOR ALL OF US.

YES, MA'AM. I KNOW.

I'M APPOINTING YOU ACTING LEADER, AND VOICE IN THE PARLIAMENT FOR THE BAY POINT CONSTITUENCY IN THE SCHOOL. YOU HAVE FULL AUTHORITY OVER YOUR PEOPLE.

I TRUST YOU CAN HANDLE THAT RESPONSIBILITY.

YES. OF COURSE.

MOTHER, I'D LIKE TO JOIN THE BAY POINTERS, TO HELP IN WHATEVER WAY I CAN.

NO, SANDER.

I NEED YOU TO TAKE MY POSITION AT THE ARCHIVES. SOMEONE NEEDS TO BE PRESERVING THOSE TEXTS, AND STUDYING OUR HISTORY WITH THE HORDE, AND I NEED GIDEON BACK HERE WITH ME.

THE *ARCHIVES?!* MOTHER...

CASSANDER KENDRICK. YOU HAVE DISOBEYED ME TWICE IN THE *LAST MONTH,* IN BOTH CASES YOU COULD HAVE *EASILY* BEEN KILLED.

THIS IS A DANGEROUS TIME, AND I CANNOT HAVE MY OWN SON GOING RENEGADE WHEN THE ENTIRE CITY NEEDS TO BE ACTING IN CONCERT WITH ONE ANOTHER.

KAREN, PLEASE. TELL HER...

...

RIGHT. OKAY.

BAY POINT

THAT WAS PRETTY BRUTAL.

HE'LL BE FINE.

THAT'S KIND OF BESIDE THE POINT.

SANAMI, JUST DON'T...OKAY? THIS IS HARD ENOUGH ALREADY.

AND THE NEXT STEP IS GOING TO BE HARDER. CORRINE SIGNED OFF ON MY PLAN THIS MORNING.

I NEED YOU TO GET COACH CLAY OUT OF WHATEVER TAVERN HE'S HOLED UP IN, AND NIGEL, TOO. WE'RE GOING TO START TRAINING ALL OF THE BAY POINT REFUGEES. I WANT THIS UP AND RUNNING BY TOMORROW.

YOU WANT *WHAT?*

KAREN, THIS IS *EXACTLY* WHAT WE WERE *FIGHTING* OVER A YEAR AGO.

WELL IT'S NOT A YEAR AGO ANYMORE, IS IT?

I NEED YOUR SUPPORT HERE. HOW MANY MORE MARIAS DO YOU WANT?

KAREN... CAN WE TALK?

JUST WALK AWAY, CALDER.

NO, SANAMI. GO AHEAD. I'LL BE FINE.

YOU LOOK TERRIBLE. WHEN'S THE LAST TIME YOU SLEPT?

WHAT DO YOU WANT, CALDER?

I WANT TO HELP. I WANT TO DO SOMETHING. *ANYTHING.*

WE DON'T NEED YOUR HELP.

WHOA, COME ON. STOP THAT. LOOK AT ME.

WHERE ARE YOU RIGHT NOW? BECAUSE YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE A THOUSAND MILES AWAY.

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU DID BACK WHEN EVERYTHING STARTED TO TURN.

CALDER, I DON'T HAVE TIME...

YOU'RE DOING EXACTLY WHAT YOU DID. YOU'RE TERRIFIED AND YOU'RE PUSHING *EVERYONE* WHO CARES ABOUT YOU AWAY.

I CAN HELP YOU. I CAN BE THERE FOR YOU.

CALDER...

YOU MARKED THE CABINS. YOU TOLD CASEY WHERE EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US WERE ON THE CAMPUS. PEOPLE ARE *DEAD* BECAUSE OF THE INFORMATION YOU GAVE YOUR BROTHER.

IF YOU HAD BEEN SMARTER WE COULD HAVE GOTTEN A MESSAGE TO NEW LONDON. WE COULD HAVE STOPPED THE MASSACRE.

KAREN...

IT'S NOT ABOUT NEED, IT'S ABOUT WANT.

WE DON'T *WANT* YOUR HELP.

I DON'T *WANT* YOUR HELP.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

I'M GOING TO GO ON THE NEXT HUNT ALONE.

NO. I HEARD THAT BIT.

WHAT I'M SAYING IS THAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

DAMMIT, CALDER, I'VE JUST BEEN *USING YOU.* OKAY?? I'VE JUST BEEN TRYING TO PUSH AWAY EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED BACK IN NEW LONDON, AND YOU WERE THE BEST DISTRACTION.

BUT NOW ISAAC'S HERE, AND I CAN SEE HOW MUCH HE HATES ME, AND I JUST NEED SOME SPACE, OKAY?

I'M JUST A KID. I'M JUST A DUMB KID. THIS IS ALL TOO MUCH, AND I NEED MY OWN SPACE.

WHAT IS THIS REALLY ABOUT?

ARE YOU AND SANDER--

NO! IT'S NOT ABOUT SOME DUMB LOVE TRIANGLE, CALDER. THIS HAS *NOTHING* TO DO WITH YOU. OR HIM. OR *ANYBODY.*

I JUST NEED TO BE ALONE. OKAY? DO YOU GET THAT?

WHERE DO YOU WANT ME TO GO?

YOU STARTED TALKING TO CASEY, AGAIN...RIGHT? I'M SURE HE'LL LET YOU CRASH THERE.

KAREN...

LET GO OF ME, CALDER.

I'M GOING TO DO THIS FOR YOU, KAREN. I'M GOING TO GO RIGHT NOW, BECAUSE I KNOW THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK YOU WANT.

BUT I LOVE YOU. AND I THINK YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY. AND I THINK YOU'RE AFRAID OF WHAT COMES NEXT, THAT YOU'RE NOT UP TO THE CHALLENGE.

BUT I KNOW YOU ARE.

AND EVEN IF YOU PUSH ME AWAY, I'M ALWAYS GOING TO BE HERE FOR YOU. I'M ALWAYS GOING TO LOOK OUT FOR YOU. NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU DON'T WANT IT.

WELL... GOODBYE.

GOODBYE.

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN MAKE SURE WE CAN ALL GET HOME.

MREH?

WHAT THE HELL AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?

WHAT THE HELL *CAN* I DO?

I DON'T KNOW HOW TO BE A LEADER... I DON'T KNOW HOW TO FIGHT A WAR... I DON'T KNOW HOW TO KEEP PEOPLE SAFE...

I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO KEEP MYSELF SAFE...

I'M HERE TO RELIEVE YOU FROM DUTY, GIDEON. MOTHER NEEDS YOU AT THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION.

ANYTHING I SHOULD KNOW ABOUT? I CAN'T IMAGINE ANYONE'S BEEN DOWN HERE IN WEEKS WITH EVERYTHING THAT'S BEEN GOING ON.

HE'S BEEN HERE FOR *HOW* MANY HOURS?

HELLO?

OH, HEY, SANDER.

RIIIIIP

WAIT! YOU CAN'T DO THAT--

I'M PRETTY SURE I JUST DID. WHOOPS.

WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?

IT'S EVERYTHING YOUR PEOPLE HAVE ON THE HISTORY OF THE HORDE, AND OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE, AND THE MONGOLIAN EMPIRE. IT'S ALSO EVERY MAP YOU HAVE OF THE LESS CHARTED HALF OF THE PLANET, WHERE THE CHILDREN OF THE SUN ARE PROBABLY HIDING.

I'M NOT JUST GOING TO SIT BACK AND LET KAREN KILL HERSELF TRYING TO SAVE THE WORLD.

SO, I'M GOING TO GO KILL MY BROTHER, AND RESCUE THE REST OF THE BAY POINT KIDS. OR I'M GOING TO DIE HORRIBLY, TRYING.

WANT SOME HELP?

CHAPTER

TWENTY-TWO

EIGHT MONTHS AGO.

I THINK YOU KNOW THE WAY FROM HERE...THOSE WEIRDOS THAT HANG OUT DOWN THERE SAID SHE THREW A HAMMER AT THEM WHEN THEY TRIED TO GET IN.

THANKS FOR THIS, MARIA.

I THOUGHT SHE WAS DOING SO WELL...

DON'T JUDGE HER, OKAY? JUST FOR ME...LET ME SEE WHAT'S GOING ON.

KARE-BEAR?

HEEEEY.

KAREN! ARE YOU OKAY?

OH, I'LL BE FINE ONCE I FINISH *DROWNING* MYSELF.

THAT ISN'T FUNNY, KAREN.

I THREW UP OVER THERE.

THAT'S OKAY. I JUST NEED YOU TO TELL ME WHAT'S WRONG.

ASIDE FROM EVERYTHING?

WHAT HAPPENED, KAREN?

FOUND A BOTTLE IN A DRAWER IN THE STAGE OFFICE. FIGURED IT'D HELP ME STOP FEELING THINGS, BUT IT DIDN'T WORK.

KAREN. TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED.

SCREWED IT ALL UP. JUSS LIKE...

...JUSS LIKE ALWAYS.

I CAN'T LOOK AT THEIR FACES. I SEE THEM LOOK AND THEY WANT ME TO *BE* SOMETHING DIFFERENT. SOMETHING STRONGER. CALDER...SANDER... ISAAC...

I DUNNO.

IS THIS WHY I JUST SAW CALDER TRIPPING BALLS ON THAT WEIRD PINK ROOT DUST OUT BY THE LAKE?

NO. YES. I DUNNO.

JUSS GET *AWAY* FROM ME, SANAMI! I DON'T WANT TO BREAK YOU, TOO!

JUSS GO AWAY!

OKAY, BUT HOW ABOUT YOU COME WITH ME AND I MAKE SURE YOU LAY DOWN AND GET SOME SLEEP.

YOU DON'T WANT--

DON'T TELL ME WHAT I WANT, KAREN. I'M HERE FOR YOU, AND I'M GOING TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE OKAY. I'M ALWAYS GOING TO TAKE CARE OF YOU.

WHETHER YOU WANT IT OR NOT.

NOW.

I DON'T CARE HOW SORE YOU ARE! KEEP RUNNING!!

THIS ISN'T PERSONAL, THIS IS WAR.

OH LORD.

THIS ISN'T WORKING.

OF COURSE IT'S NOT WORKING. THE ***HORDE*** TOOK ALL OUR ATHLETES. WE GOT THE REJECTS. I'M NOT SURE WE'RE GOING TO BE ABLE TO ***BAD NEWS BEARS*** OUR WAY TO TAKING DOWN AN ACTUAL ARMY.

I CAN'T LISTEN TO THIS RIGHT NOW.

CLAY!

YOU NEED TO PUSH THEM HARDER. WE NEED TO START SEEING RESULTS.

YOU'RE KIDDING ME, RIGHT? THEY CAN BARELY HANDLE WIND SPRINTS.

DO I LOOK LIKE I'M KIDDING?

NO. YOU LOOK DERANGED.

STAND DOWN, CLAY.

NIGEL. TELL HIM HOW TO BE DOING HIS JOB BETTER.

EXCUSE ME, KAREN...BUT HE'S RIGHT. WE CAN'T PUSH THEM ANY HARDER THAN WE ARE ALREADY. WE NEED TO BUILD BASIC STRENGTH AND FITNESS BEFORE WE'LL BE GETTING THEM FIGHTING-READY.

SO I'M JUST SUPPOSED TO LAY BACK AND WAIT WHILE A FEW HUNDRED OF US ARE BEING DRAFTED FOR THE ENEMY?!

PEOPLE ARE GOING TO *DIE* IF THIS DOESN'T WORK. NEW LONDON WON'T SEND THEIR ARMY OUT UNTIL THEY MAKE A MOVE AND BY THEN IT WILL BE TOO LATE. WE NEED TO ACT ***NOW.***

KAREN. YOU'RE NOT BEING REASONABLE.

WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO BE REASONABLE.

GIVE US SOME SPACE.

BREATHE, KAREN. BREATHE...IT'S OKAY, IT'S GOING TO BE--

WHAT THE HELL DID YOU DO, GIRL?!

ACK--

CASSIUS! YOU'RE HURTING HER!

WHERE IS MY SON?

I DON'T UNDERSTAND...

WHAT THE *HELL* IS YOUR PROBLEM?! WE DON'T KNOW *ANYTHING* ABOUT WHAT SANDER IS UP TO. WE HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE THE COUNCIL MEETING YESTERDAY.

FORGIVE ME FOR NOT BELIEVING YOU AFTER EVERYTHING YOUR LOT HAS PULLED THIS LAST YEAR.

SANDER IS GONE. HE LEFT HIS POST LATE LAST NIGHT...THE LAST PERSON TO CHECK INTO THE ARCHIVES BEFORE HIS DISAPPEARANCE WAS YOUR FRIEND, CALDER.

PAGES OF IMPORTANT TEXTS WERE MISSING. TEXTS WE'VE COMPILED OVER TWO HUNDRED YEARS ABOUT THE HORDE.

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS, CASSIUS... I PROMISE.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY'LL DO IF THEY GET HIM, KAREN? DO YOU UNDERSTAND HOW MUCH DANGER HE'S IN?!

WE UNDERSTAND.

WE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING, AND WE'LL FIND OUT IMMEDIATELY IF SOMEONE FROM OUR CAMP WORKED WITHOUT OUR SANCTION.

YOU BEST DO IT QUICK. OR I'LL FIND MY OWN SOLUTION.

OH GOD.

KAREN... KAREN...IT'S OKAY...

IT'S O--

KAREN!

UM...

HI. CAN I...

OH SORRY.

SORRY.

BEN?

OH. HEY.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN HERE?

WELL, MY BOYFRIEND LEFT ME FOR A GLOWING GREEN GHOST THAT TRIED TO KILL HIM A YEAR AGO. I GOT KICKED OUT OF MY HOUSE BY A HORRIBLE ARMY.

AND THEN I GOT PUT IN CHARGE OF MAKING SURE EVERYONE IN THE REFUGEE CAMP IS SETTLED, SO I SPENT THE WHOLE DAY TALKING TO KIDS WHO DON'T WANT TO BE TENTING NEXT TO EACH OTHER BECAUSE OF SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED BACK IN FRESHMAN YEAR BIOLOGY.

SO YEAH. I CAN'T IMAGINE HOW I'D END UP HERE.

HEY, BARKEEP. TWO MEADS?

AND WHAT ARE YOU GETTING FOR YOURSELF?

HEH.

MY DAD USED TO MAKE THAT JOKE ALL THE TIME. HE ALWAYS THOUGHT IT WAS FUNNY, BUT...THAT'S NOT IMPORTANT.

EVERYTHING'S TOTALLY MESSED-UP, ISN'T IT?

YEAH, IT KIND OF IS.

KAYLA IS GOING TO KILL ME FOR THIS. I'VE BEEN OUT LOOKING FOR KAREN FOR HOURS. I SHOULD GO HOME AND CHECK IN ON HER...

KAREN... IS SHE GOING TO BE OKAY? SHE SEEMS LIKE SHE'S LOSING IT...

YOU KNOW WHAT WE WERE TALKING ABOUT, RIGHT BEFORE THE WHOLE SCHOOL GOT ZAPPED TO THE OTHER END OF THE UNIVERSE?

HOW NOT TO PUT HER IN CHARGE OF A CHILD ARMY IF SHE EVER ENDS UP ON AN ALIEN MOON?

SHE GOT SO OVERWHELMED BY THE THOUGHT OF WHAT HER MOM WANTED HER TO BE, WHAT HER DAD WANTED HER TO BE, HELL, EVEN WHAT I WANTED HER TO BE...

SHE HAD APPLICATIONS FILLED OUT FOR HALF A DOZEN COLLEGES, AND SHE DIDN'T SEND IN *ONE*. NOT EVEN ONE.

WOW.

IT'S ALWAYS MOMENTS LIKE THIS...MOMENTS WHEN THE PRESSURE GETS TURNED UP, AND EVERYONE AROUND HER EXPECTS SOMETHING...THAT'S WHEN SHE CRUMBLES.

BUT SHE'LL GET THROUGH IT.

ARE YOU REALLY SURE ABOUT THAT? BECAUSE WHAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT IS THE EXACT KIND OF THING THAT BROUGHT ME HERE...

IS KAREN REALLY GOING TO PULL HERSELF TOGETHER, OR ARE YOU JUST *HOPING* SHE'S GOING TO TURN INTO THE KIND OF PERSON YOU ALWAYS WANTED HER TO BE?

IT'S NOT LIKE THAT...

SANAMI...WHAT ARE YOU REALLY LOOKING FOR HERE?

KLUNK.
YOU OKAY?
M'OKAY.
OH GOD, THIS IS JUST LIKE ZACH HOLACHEK'S BARBECUE ALL OVER AGAIN.
YOU KISSED HIM.
NO. THAT WAS YOU, AND THEN YOU THREW UP ON HIS $200 SNEAKERS.
I DON'T THINK SO.
I THINK SO.
LET'S GET YOU OUT OF THESE SMELLY CLOTHES.

I'M SORRY...I'M SO SORRY I'M LIKE THIS.

IT'S OKAY...IT'S OKAY...

NO. I HURT THEM...

I CAME BACK HERE AND NOBODY CARED ABOUT ME. NOBODY KNEW ABOUT ADRIAN...NOBODY KNEW I KISSED SANDER.

YOU KISSED SANDER?!

AND CALDER WAS JUST...HE WAS SO NICE. HE WAS SO COMFORTABLE. FUNNY.

IF YOU SAY SO.

AND I SAW ISAAC'S EYES, AND HE WAS SO ANGRY...AND THEN SANDER WAS THERE AND HE WAS SO SAD...AND THEN CALDER LOOKED AT ME AND FOR THE FIRST TIME HE WASN'T ***LOOKING*** AT ME, HE WAS SEEING THIS OTHER KAREN. THIS ***BETTER*** KAREN. THIS PERSON I WASN'T...AND I JUST. I COULDN'T-- I COULDN'T...

KAREN.

KAREN. IT'S OKAY.

YOU KNOW WHAT WE SHOULD DO? WE SHOULD GO OUT ON A LONG HUNT...I KNOW NIGEL WILL SIGN OFF ON IT...WE'LL GO WAY WAY WAY PAST BAY POINT, AND EXPLORE NEW AREAS AND FIND NEW FOOD.

I'LL LEAVE MY JOB WITH MARIA, AND IT'LL BE LIKE IT USED TO BE. JUST THE TWO OF US. WE CAN FIGURE OUT ALL OF THIS. YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO THROUGH IT ALONE.

THAT SOUNDS REALLY NICE.

IT'LL BE PERFECT.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU WANT?

I... I...

KAREN?

ZZZZ

THE HUNTERS REALLY TORE THIS PLACE APART, DIDN'T THEY?

MREH...

MRAH!

SHH, DOC. DON'T BE TOO LOUD.

THAT BAG WHAT I THINK IT IS?

SANAMI...

NO. YOU'RE NOT DOING THIS AGAIN.

I WON'T LET YOU. I JUST LOST ONE OF MY BEST FRIENDS. I'M NOT GOING TO LOSE ANOTHER.

YOU REMEMBER THAT NIGHT, MONTHS AGO...THE NIGHT YOU KISSED ME. DO YOU KNOW HOW *HARD* THAT WAS FOR ME?

PLEASE...

I DIDN'T WANT YOU LIKE THAT. I NEVER...I NEVER REALLY WANTED YOU LIKE THAT. BUT I *DO* LOVE YOU, OKAY! AND I CAN'T KEEP LETTING YOU RUN AWAY FROM EVERY LITTLE THING THAT HURTS.

THAT MORNING, WAKING UP...REALIZING YOU WERE GONE. THAT YOU HAD TAKEN A STEED AND WENT OFF ON YOUR OWN...

YOU DIDN'T COME BACK FOR A *MONTH.*

SANAMI...

YOU CAN'T KEEP DOING THIS! YOU'RE SO MUCH STRONGER THAN THAT, KAREN! YOU CAN'T RUN AWAY AGAIN.

I KNOW.

"I GOT CLOSE. I GOT ALL THE WAY TO THE WALL...

"BUT THEN I THOUGHT OF THE TWO OF THEM OUT THERE...I STOPPED THINKING ABOUT MYSELF, AND WHAT EVERYONE WANTED FROM ME, AND I JUST FOCUSED ON THESE TWO DUMB BOYS WHO ARE PROBABLY MOSTLY DOING THIS JUST BECAUSE THEY LOVE ME."

AND YOU KNOW WHAT? I LOVE THEM, TOO. AND I WON'T LET THEM SLIP AWAY THIS TIME. I CAN'T.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

SANAMI, I SPENT THE LAST FEW HOURS SITTING DOWN WITH CASSIUS. THE ARMY WON'T GIVE US A FORCE, BUT NOW THAT SANDER'S IN THE MIX, I WAS ABLE TO GET SOMEONE ELSE.

THE HUNTERS.

"THERE ARE THREE HUNDRED IN NEW LONDON. WE'RE GOING TO LEAVE TOMORROW AND WE'RE GOING TO FIND SANDER AND CALDER, *AND* THE KIDS WE LOST..."

"AND WE'LL TAKE DOWN AS MANY MEMBERS OF THE HORDE AS WE CAN WHILE WE FIGHT."

I CAME HERE BECAUSE...I DON'T KNOW. I WANTED SOMETHING TO REMIND ME WHY I'M DOING THIS.

BUT THEN I WAS GOING TO COME GET YOU. BECAUSE, I NEED YOU TO KEEP MY HEAD ON STRAIGHT WHEN I CAN'T DO IT ALONE.

THAT SOUND GOOD TO YOU?

SURE THING, BOSS.

LET'S GET MOVING...

"AND HOPE THOSE TWO IDIOTS HAVEN'T ALREADY GOTTEN THEMSELVES KILLED."

CHAPTER

TWENTY-THREE

SIX MONTHS AGO.

UH... HELLO?

NIGEL TOLD ME I SHOULD HEAD UP HERE ONCE I'D SETTLED.

THE ROCK

BAY POINT

I ACTUALLY TOLD HIM TO TELL YOU TO COME BEFORE YOU'D SETTLED, BUT IT'S FINE.

GAVE ME A BIT MORE TIME TO WORK ON THE MODEL. THIS IS WHAT BAY POINT IS GOING TO LOOK LIKE WHEN MARIA AND I ARE DONE WITH IT.

SANAMI?

DISAPPOINTED?

I JUST THOUGHT...

IT'S NOTHING.

KAREN HASN'T BEEN IN THE CAMP FOR TWO WEEKS NOW.

WHAT?

SHE'S... SHE'S HAVING A ROUGH TIME.

ACTUALLY, I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT KIND OF TIME SHE'S HAVING. SHE WON'T TALK TO ME.

IS IT THAT BAD?

YES, ACTUALLY. IT IS. IT'S WHY I WANTED TO BRING YOU HERE.

I DON'T THINK KAREN WOULD WANT ME TO GO LOOKING FOR HER RIGHT NOW.

THAT'S NOT WHAT I WANT.

I WOKE UP THIS MORNING TO A LETTER, SLIPPED UNDER MY DOOR. A LETTER FROM CALDER.

CALDER ISN'T WITH HER?

NO, HE'S NOT.

THE LAST MONTH...IT'S BEEN HARD. KAREN...SHE'S PUSHED EVERYONE AWAY...

AND WHEN SHE TRIED TO GO BACK TO CALDER AND MAKE THINGS WORK, WELL...SOMETHING HAD CHANGED IN THE FEW WEEKS HE'D SPENT WITH HIS BROTHER.

HE'S BEEN DISAPPEARING FOR LONGER AND LONGER. HIDING FROM HER, AFRAID TO UPSET HER AGAIN. BUT THEY HAD A BIG FIGHT...

AND... WELL...

SEE FOR YOURSELF.

HE'S LEAVING BAY POINT, FOR GOOD...

TRYING TO MAKE A GO OF IT ON HIS OWN.

SANAMI... I'M...I'M NOT SURE I'M THE BEST PERSON TO TRY AND HUNT HIM DOWN.

OF COURSE YOU ARE.

THIS IS ABOUT KAREN'S FEELINGS. AND I KNOW YOU CARE ABOUT HER. I CAN'T HAVE THIS ON HER HEAD, TOO.

I DON'T THINK SHE'D EVER RECOVER.

...

AND WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?

BRING HIM HOME, SANDER. WHATEVER IT TAKES, BRING HIM HOME.

NOW.

CRUNCH!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO EAT SO LOUD.

OH, MAN. I CAN'T HELP IT. IT TASTES LIKE IT'S BEEN MARINATED IN BARBECUE SAUCE. I WANT TO FIND ENOUGH OF THESE TO EAT EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK.

YOU'RE NOT LISTENING TO ME.

DUDE, OF COURSE I'M LISTENING TO YOU. THIS IS FREAKING *FASCINATING.*

NEW BOMBAY, HUH?

YEAH. NEW BOMBAY.

AT ITS PEAK, A LITTLE OVER A HUNDRED YEARS AGO, IT WAS TWICE THE SIZE OF NEW LONDON.

AND NOW...WELL, YOU SEE.

MY GRANDMOTHER, ON MY MOM'S SIDE...SHE WAS THERE. SHE BARELY ESCAPED THE FIRES. THEY COULDN'T EVEN ***FATHOM*** WHAT WAS HAPPENING TO THEM. DEATH RAINING FROM THE SKY.

THE HORDE'S NEW CAMPAIGN OF HORROR.

YOU'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE?

I CAME WHEN I WAS FOUR OR FIVE YEARS OLD.

THIS PLACE IS A MEMORIAL. NEW LONDONERS ONLY COME HERE TO PAY RESPECTS TO THE DEAD ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE MASSACRE. IT'S UNTHINKABLE TO WALK THESE GROUNDS THE REST OF THE YEAR.

THAT'S WHAT THE BOOKS SAID.

THEN WHY ARE WE HERE?

WOULDN'T A PLACE THAT YOUR ENEMY WOULD NEVER ***THINK*** OF COMING BACK TO BE PRETTY MUCH THE PERFECT PLACE TO HIDE?

YOU DON'T THINK...

I DON'T HAVE TO THINK, BUDDY.

SEE FOR YOURSELF.

OH GOD...

THEY'VE MADE IT A PRISON CAMP.

THIS...THIS IS DISGUSTING.

AND SEE THAT GUY RIGHT THERE, NEXT TO THE PLANE? THAT'S PETER FERRON. HE WAS FORWARD ON THE BAY POINT HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM. NEXT TO HIM IS SAMANTHA BARNES. SHE POURED A CUP OF HOT TEA ON MY HEAD ONCE.

BACK ON EARTH?

NAW, THAT WAS JUST A COUPLE MONTHS AGO.

THIS IS PERFECT. THIS IS EXACTLY WHERE WE WANT TO BE. AND THEY DON'T EVEN HAVE THEIR FULL FORCES HERE... IT'S JUST AN OUTPOST.

OKAY...

LOOK, CALDER...WE SHOULD HEAD BACK. WE SHOULD BRING THIS INFORMATION TO MY MOTHER, AND ALL OF NEW LONDON. DO THIS RIGHT. WITH THE BACKUP...

THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU SIGNED ON FOR, MAN.

CALDER...

WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?

...

BECAUSE IT MEANS SOMETHING.

CALDER... YOU CAN'T...

IF WE DON'T STRIKE NOW, THEY'LL BE GONE. THIS IS OUR ONE CHANCE. I'M TAKING IT.

DROP QUIETLY...

WE CAN SEARCH THE PERIMETER. SEE WHERE THE GUARDS ARE--

YOU'RE IN LUCK, BOY.

THE GUARDS ARE *RIGHT HERE.*

WE'RE ONLY HALF A DAY BEHIND THEM, THEN. KEEP MOVING.

THE HUNTERS ARE GETTING RESTLESS. WE NEED TO REST SOMETIME.

WE'LL REST WHEN WE'RE HOME.

WE'VE GOT A TRACE...

SANDER?

NO. THE OTHER BOY. HE'S NOT AS GOOD AT HIDING HIS TRACKS AS HE THINKS HE IS.

THEY'LL BE OKAY.

THEY'LL BE OKAY...

>SIGH<

IT'S QUITE A VIEW, ISN'T IT?

WHAT THE--

WHOA! WHOA, IT'S ME!

OH...

OH.

EXPECTING SOMEONE ELSE?

NO. NOT REALLY. I THOUGHT I'D BE ALONE.

YOU DON'T HIDE YOUR TRACKS AS WELL AS YOU THINK YOU DO.

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO CONVINCE ME TO COME BACK. I DON'T WANT TO HAVE THIS CONVERSATION.

YOU THINK I DO?

YOU CAME HERE.

I CAME HERE FOR KAREN. NOT FOR YOU.

SHE KNOWS?

NO, SHE DOESN'T.

I JUST DON'T GET IT.

YOU DON'T KNOW ME, MAN.

YOU DON'T KNOW *ME*, EITHER.

IT WAS SO GOOD THERE, FOR A SECOND. LIFE ACTUALLY FELT...IT ACTUALLY FELT LIKE IT WAS WORTH SOMETHING.

I WASN'T AFRAID WHEN I WAS WITH HER.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE TERRIFIED, ALL OF THE TIME? LIKE, YOU WAKE UP SHAKING BECAUSE YOU REALIZE THAT YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO GO THROUGH ALL OF IT AGAIN.

WHEN YOU'RE LIVING THIS KIND OF HALF-LIFE...SOMETHING FAKE YOU'VE BUILT TO HELP EVERYONE AROUND YOU, BUT YOU CAN'T TELL THEM THE TRUTH.

YOU NEED TO SIT AND SMILE AT PEOPLE WHO RESENT YOU, WHO THINK YOU'RE ***NOTHING***, AND YOU HAVE TO PLAY ALONG JUST NOT TO UPSET THE STATUS QUO.

...

IT WASN'T LIKE THAT WITH HER. IT WAS NEVER LIKE THAT...ALL THE STUPID THINGS I DO. THE DUMB THINGS I SAY. THE SHIELDS I PUT UP...SHE SAW THROUGH THEM.

SHE SAW THERE WAS ***MORE*** TO ME.

LITERALLY NOBODY ELSE DOES.

AND PLEASE DON'T PRETEND LIKE YOU DO. I KNOW WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT ME.

YOU *DON'T*, ACTUALLY.

OKAY, SURE, BUT I KNOW YOU DON'T LIKE ME. I WAS *AWFUL* TO YOU IN NEW LONDON. AND I KNOW THERE WAS SOMETHING GOING ON WITH YOU AND KAREN...

YOU REALLY DON'T...

I DON'T CARE, OKAY?!

LOOK. I DON'T WANT YOUR FORCED PITY.

LOOK AT THIS PLACE. WE'RE SO ALONE HERE, AND WE'RE STUCK. IT'S A DEAD END, EVERYWHERE I LOOK. AND THE ONE BIT OF LIGHT I FOUND, I'VE LOST.

I USED TO DREAM ABOUT JUST FALLING OFF THE MAP. MOVING TO AUSTRALIA OR SOMETHING. GETTING A NEW CHANCE. BEING SOMEONE NEW.

SO THAT'S WHAT I'M GOING TO DO. FALL OFF THE MAP. TRY TO MAKE IT WORK...

AND IF I DON'T? SO BE IT.

DEATH SHOULD MEAN SOMETHING.

WHAT?

THAT'S WHAT MY DAD SAID, WHEN I WAS ON MY OWN CLIFF A FEW YEARS AGO. DEATH SHOULD MEAN SOMETHING. IT SHOULD SERVE A PURPOSE. IT SHOULD BE *IMPORTANT.*

BECAUSE WHEN IT DOESN'T, IT'S A BAD DEATH. A CORROSIVE DEATH. SOMETHING THAT JUST HURTS EVERYONE AROUND IT.

DEATH COMING BECAUSE OF THE BODY FAILING, OR DISEASE IN GENERAL, IT'S A DEATH WITH A *REASON.* A DEATH THAT COMES FROM A HUNGRY ANIMAL. A DEATH THAT COMES FROM FIGHTING A BATTLE...

THOSE ARE DEATHS WITH *MEANING.* DEATHS THAT SOLVE THE ISSUE AT HAND.

"WHAT WOULD YOUR DEATH SOLVE IN THE WORLD, CASSANDRA?"

THAT'S WHAT HE SAID TO ME.

I... I DON'T... THAT'S NOT WHAT I...

LOOK, CALDER, I DON'T CARE IF YOU DECIDE TO GO TO THE OTHER END OF THE WORLD, BUT DON'T PRETEND THAT IT'S GOING TO FIX ANYTHING.

YOU'LL TAKE THE PAIN WITH YOU. IT'LL EAT AWAY AT YOU, AND THE LONELINESS WILL JUST MAKE THINGS THAT MUCH WORSE. AND YOU KNOW HOW THE STORY ENDS.

YOU HAVE ONE DEATH. USE IT RIGHT.

KNOCK! KNOCK!

WHAT THE HELL IS--

CALDER?

YOU'RE HIS BROTHER?

YOU HAVE EYES, DON'T YOU?

HE NEEDS SOME REST. HE'S HAD A LONG DAY. HE NEEDS TO TAKE HIS MIND OFF OF THINGS FOR A WHILE. CAN YOU HELP HIM?

I'VE GOT JUST THE THING.

YOU IDIOT.

YOU COMPLETE *IDIOT.*

WHY WOULD YOU COME HERE?

OH, I DON'T KNOW. THE SCENERY'S NICE.

CUTE HAIRCUT, CASEY.

SHUT UP.

WE NEED TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE. *FAST.*

WHAT...

MACREADY.

YOU HAVEN'T SENT THE RAVEN TO TAISHO. YOU WERE GIVEN AN ORDER. HE NEEDS TO KNOW EVERYTHING.

PARTICULARLY THIS...BOY, HERE.

THIS IS THE ONE WE'VE HEARD OF. THE CHILD OF THE NEW GOVERNESS. THIS IS THE LEVERAGE WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR.

I WAS PUT IN *CHARGE* OF THIS CAMP.

YOU WERE PUT IN CHARGE OF OUR *PRISONERS*, BOY. MAYBE WHEN YOU TURN THEM INTO THE ARMY YOU PROMISED US...

I'LL SEND THE DAMN RAVEN, ALRIGHT?!

BUT IF I'M IN CHARGE OF THE PRISONERS, I'M IN CHARGE OF THESE ONES TOO! SO BACK THE HELL OFF.

NICE FRIENDS YOU'VE MADE.

JUST... JUST BE QUIET, CALDER. TAISHO WAS ALREADY PLANNING ON BEING BACK BY THIS EVENING.

YOU WERE ***FOLLOWED.*** THERE ARE ABOUT 200 NEW LONDON HUNTERS IN PURSUIT, RIGHT ON YOUR TRAIL. TAISHO IS GETTING THE REST OF THE HORDE'S FIGHTER JETS. IT'S GOING TO BE A BLOODBATH.

YOU NEED TO RUN AS FAST AS YOU CAN.

POK!

WHAT ARE YOU ***DOING?!***

GIVING MYSELF A LITTLE TRIM.

AND A NICE CHANGE.

CALDER... WAIT...THIS IS CRAZY. YOU CAN'T IMPERSONATE HIM...

I'VE BEEN TAKING CREDIT FOR HIS CRAP MY ENTIRE LIFE. TRUST ME, IT'S NOT THAT FAR A STRETCH.

LOOK. I'VE MESSED UP SO MUCH. OVER AND OVER. EVERYONE WHO IS IN THIS CAMP IS HERE BECAUSE I SCREWED UP *HUGE.*

YOU TOLD ME THAT DEATH SHOULD MATTER. I AGREE.

THE LIVES OF 200 STUDENTS MATTER. THE LIVES OF YOUR FATHER AND ALL THE HUNTERS MATTER.

KAREN MATTERS.

TAKE THE KNIFE. CUT YOURSELF FREE. I'LL BE GONE BEFORE YOU DO. YOU CAN'T STOP ME. TAKE MY BROTHER TO THE HUNTERS. GET HIM TO TELL THEM ANYTHING HE CAN.

YOU'RE INSANE.

NO. I'M REALLY NOT.

...TELL HER I LOVE HER.

THERE'S SOMETHING IN THE PATH! HOLD POSITIONS!

IS THAT SANDER...

KAREN...

I...I TRIED TO STOP HIM.

NO...

CHAPTER

TWENTY-FOUR

YOU READY?

NEVER A DAY IN MY LIFE.

AIN'T THAT THE TRUTH.

DON'T DO DRUGS.

WITHOUT ME, ANYWAYS.

THANKS, BRO.

THANKS FOR BEING THERE.

ALWAYS.

=GULP=

YOU AREN'T ALL THAT OBSERVANT, ARE YOU?

AH! YOU SNUCK UP ON ME.

I'M *VERY* SNEAKY.

YOU LOOK NICE.

SHUT UP.

OKAY.

I WAS THINKING...WHAT IF WE JUST SKIPPED THE PROM?

WHAT IF WE JUST GOT ON A ROAD AND KEPT DRIVING, AND DIDN'T TURN BACK UNTIL WE FELT LIKE WE HAD TO?

WHAT IF WE TURNED BACK NEVER?

YEAH. LET'S DO IT.

KAREN...

NONE OF THIS IS REAL RIGHT NOW.

I KNOW.

THIS IS JUST A PART OF MY BRAIN SAYING--

I KNOW.

IF MY PARENTS HADN'T DIED...IF CASEY HADN'T TRANSFORMED INTO SUCH A ***NIGHTMARE.*** IF WE HADN'T ENDED UP ON THAT HORRIBLE MOON...DO YOU THINK I'D EVEN HAVE MET YOU?

PROBABLY NOT.

I FEEL LIKE I MISSED MY LIFE.

I GOT SHOVED ONTO A HORRIBLE SIDETRACK AND I NEVER FOUND MY FOOTING.

THE ONLY REASON I MET YOU IS BECAUSE ADRIAN ROTH THOUGHT I MIGHT BE GOOD IN A FIGHT. BECAUSE HE BELIEVED THE AURA AROUND ME I ONLY BUILT TO KEEP MY BROTHER AWAY FROM MY GRANDMA. NOT THAT IT WORKED IN THE END...

AND MAYBE THAT'S THE ONLY REASON YOU LIKED ME. MAYBE I WAS JUST DANGEROUS AND SILLY AND DUMB, AND YOU NEEDED THAT.

THAT'S OKAY. IT WAS NICE. IT REMINDED ME THAT I WAS A PERSON.

AND NOW WHAT AM I?

THREE MONTHS AGO.

YOU'RE AN *IDIOT.*

DAMMIT, CALDER. WAKE THE HELL UP. THEY'LL BE HERE ANY SECOND.

THIS DEAL'S GOING TO MAKE US KINGS. YOU'RE NOT GOING TO RUIN IT FOR ME.

JUST DO ME A FAVOR. PRETEND THAT YOU CAN PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER FOR HALF A SECOND. THAT YOU'RE SOMEBODY THESE PEOPLE CAN RESPECT. SOMEBODY THAT *MATTERS.*

PRETEND HARD ENOUGH AND MAYBE IT'LL ACTUALLY HAPPEN.

NOW.

PRETEND HARD ENOUGH.

HEH.

MACREADY.

THE RAVEN.

IT'S BEEN SENT. GET OFF MY CASE, MAN. TAISHO WILL BE HERE IN A FEW HOURS.

HOW MANY MEN DO WE HAVE HERE, IF THE NEW LONDONERS GET HERE FIRST?

TWENTY-FOUR SOLDIERS. TWENTY-FOUR OF THE BEST.

ALRIGHT, GOOD.

YOU LOOK DIFFERENT.

YOU WANT TO GIVE ME ANOTHER HAIRCUT? YOU'VE GOT WHAT YOU WANTED FROM ME. I'VE GOT WORK TO DO.

HMPH.

LET ME IN.

THEY ARE IN FOR THE NIGHT. YOU HAVE YOUR OWN QUARTERS.

YEAH, BUT I'M THE BOSS OF THESE GUYS, RIGHT? THAT WAS THE DEAL.

MY PEOPLE NEED THEIR SPACE KING. SO LET ME THROUGH.

CASEY...

YOU'RE NOT CASEY.

NOT EVEN A LITTLE BIT, NO.

WELL, I GUESS ON A GENETIC LEVEL.

BUT NO. I'M NOT.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

THEY'VE BEEN TRAINING YOU GUYS, RIGHT?

ZIIP

WELL, WHO'S READY TO GET A LITTLE ROUGH AND TUMBLE?

IS THAT EVERYTHING?

I'VE GIVEN YOU THEIR NUMBERS, A FULL LAYOUT OF THE CAMP, AND THEIR PATROL TIMES. YEAH. THAT'S EVERYTHING.

OF COURSE IT MATTERS! OF COURSE I KNOW HOW BAD I SCREWED UP!

SO STOP MESSING AROUND AND GO SAVE THEM, DAMMIT.

ARE WE READY?

SOMETHING'S ALREADY HAPPENING AT THE CAMP...

WE SHOULD MOVE NOW.

DON'T TALK TO ME LIKE THAT.

IT'S YOUR ***BROTHER*** IN THERE. DOESN'T THAT MATTER TO YOU?

CALDER... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

GUARDS... SOMETHING'S WRONG...I NEED YOUR HELP IN HERE.

=SIGH=

ALRIGHT. WE NEED TO MOVE QUICK.

THIS IS INSANE.

YEAH, WELL, INSANITY'S ALWAYS BEEN A GOOD LOOK ON ME.

CRAP... CRAP CRAP CRAP...

WE CAN'T DO THIS...THEY'LL KILL US.

NO THEY WON'T.

STAY LOW TO THE GROUND. MOVE QUICKLY. HEAD NORTH.

WHEN?!

YOU'LL HEAR IT.

HEY, YOU...

I JUST WANT TO SAY THAT I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT THIS.

MACREADY, I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR--

UNNGH...

TWIST!

THIS ISN'T THE KIND OF GUY I AM... IT REALLY ISN'T...

BUT THAT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH. I NEED YOU TO SCREAM.

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'VE DONE, CASEY?

SORRY. WRONG BROTHER.

YOU CAN'T BEAT ALL OF US.

YOU'RE ALL ALONE.

NO. HE ISN'T.

KAREN...

THE...THE KIDS?

THEY'RE MOVING NORTH. THEY SHOULD BE AT THE TREE LINE.

I'LL...

I'LL GET THEM.

IT'S GOOD... IT'S GOOD TO BE FIGHTING TOGETHER AGAIN.

WE WERE ALWAYS A GOOD TEAM.

I NEED TO TELL YOU SOMETHING...

I FORGOT MY SHIRT?

SHUT UP.

I JUST WANT TO TELL--

GGUCK...
CALDER...
CALDER?!

YOU CONTINUE TO ASTOUND ME, MS. JACOBS.

YOU ARE TURNING OUT EXACTLY AS I HOPED...

THIS ISN'T A GAME. THIS IS OUR LIVES.

LIFE IS A DISTRACTION.

YOU...

AAAHH!

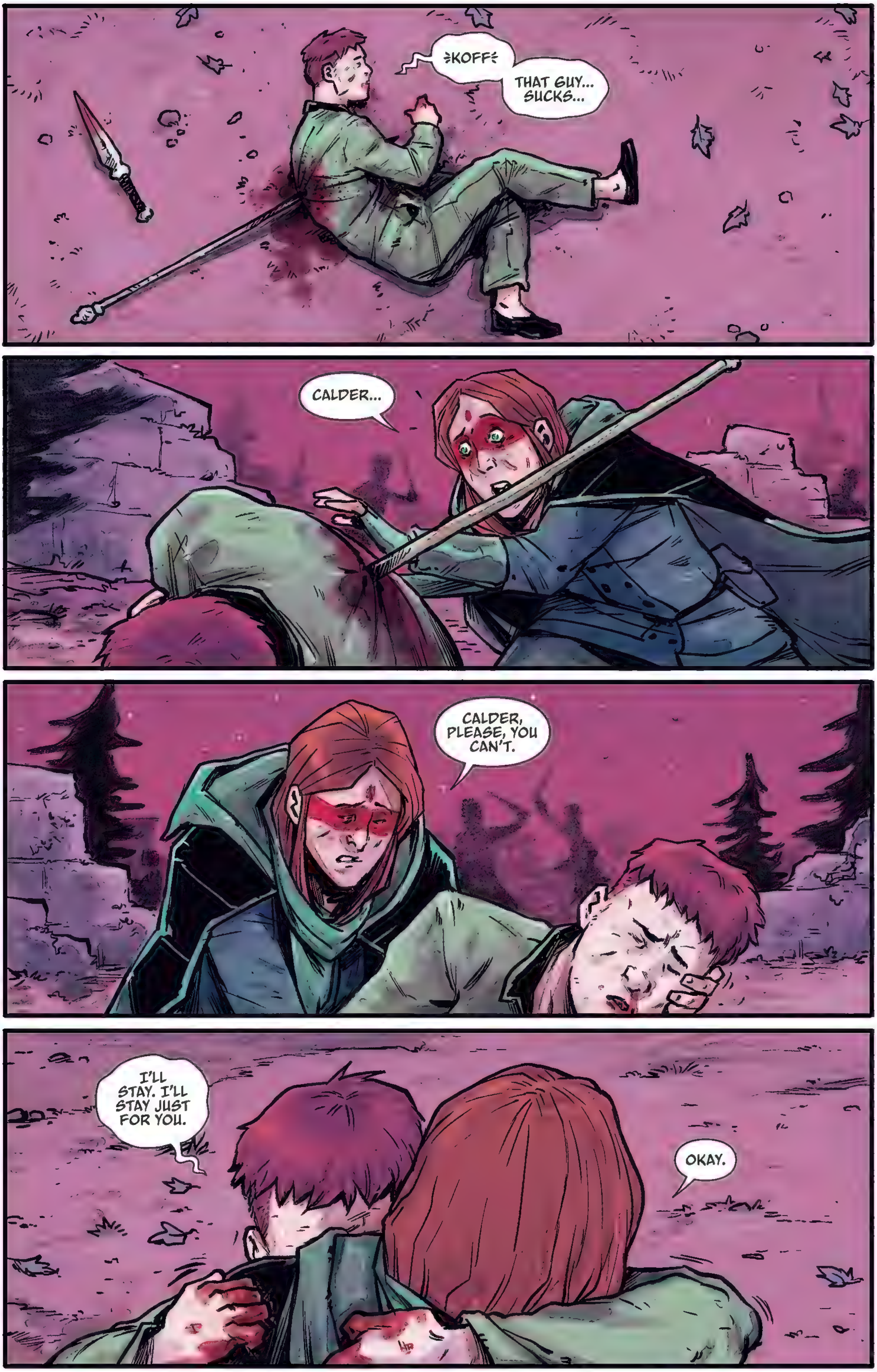
OH, I DON'T THINK SO. NOT YET.

YOUR FORCES WILL WIN THIS ROUND. THE REST OF THE ARMY IS TOO FAR BEHIND. YOU ARE AN EXCELLENT PLAYER. BUT DON'T FORGET YOU ARE PLAYING AGAINST A ***MASTER.***

DUP! DUP!

THIS IS ME HELPING YOU. YOU CAN'T AFFORD DISTRACTIONS ANYMORE. IT'S ALL ABOUT TO GET MUCH, MUCH WORSE...

BUT THE ENDGAME WILL BE ***GLORIOUS.*** JUST YOU WAIT AND SEE.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THAT GUY... SUCKS...
CALDER...
CALDER, PLEASE, YOU CAN'T.
I'LL STAY. I'LL STAY JUST FOR YOU.
OKAY.

I...

I MATTERED, RIGHT?

YOU FOUND THEM WHEN WE COULDN'T. YOU JUST SAVED THE LIVES OF OVER A HUNDRED KIDS. YOU DID WHAT NONE OF THE REST OF US COULD.

THAT'S NOT--

YOU *MATTERED*, CALDER. OH GOD, YOU MATTERED SO DAMN MUCH.

PLEASE...PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME. I CAN'T DO THIS ALONE.

DON'T BE...HEH... STUPID. OF COURSE YOU CAN.

YOU CAN DO ANYTHING.

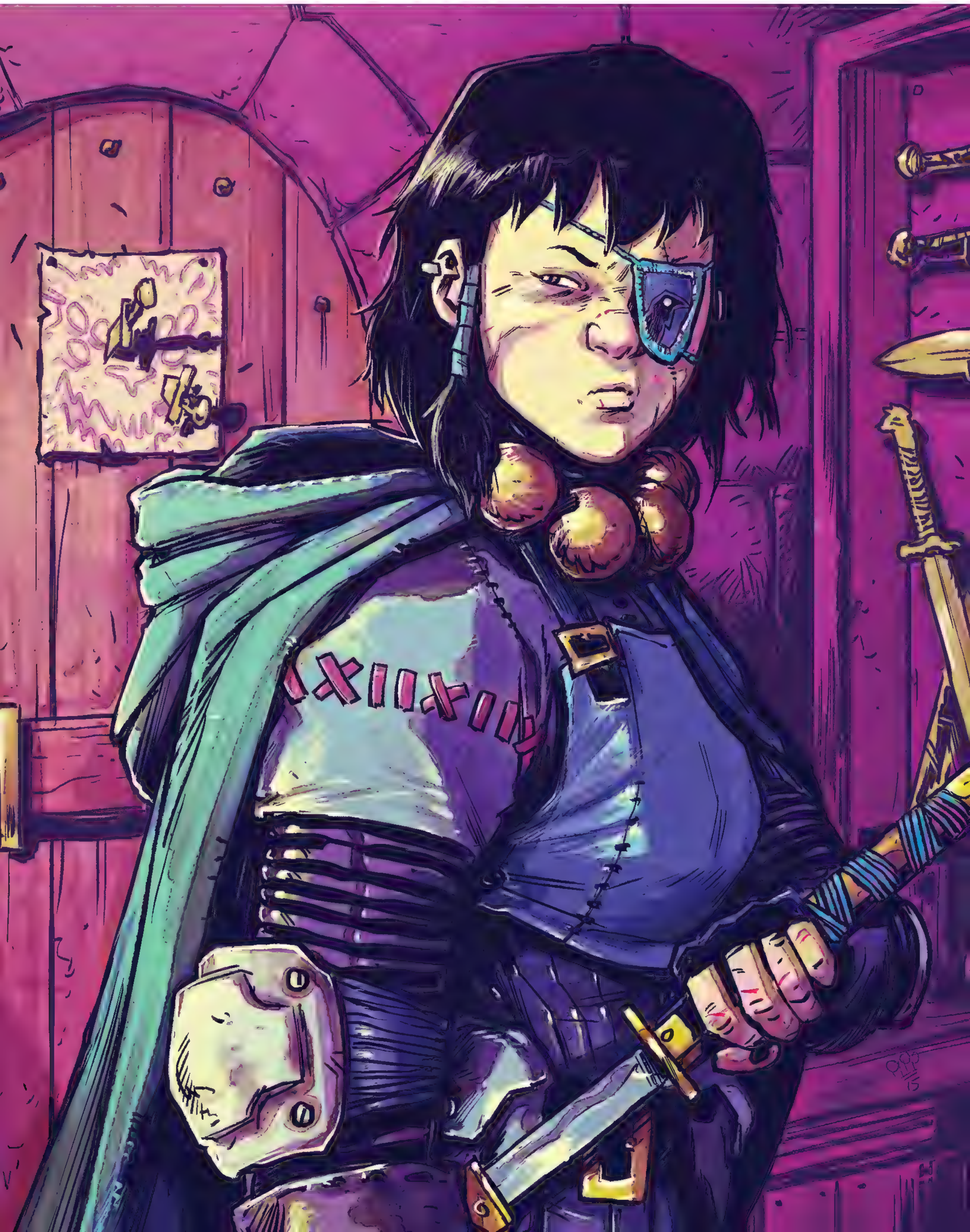
I LOVE...

COVER

GALLERY

ISSUE TWENTY-ONE COVER **MICHAEL DIALYNAS**

ISSUE TWENTY-TWO COVER **MICHAEL DIALYNAS**



ISSUE TWENTY-THREE COVER **MICHAEL DIALYNAS**

ISSUE TWENTY-FOUR COVER **MICHAEL DIALYNAS**

MICHAEL DIALYNAS

SKETCHBOOK

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Having been stranded in an alien wilderness for well over a year, the former students of Bay Point Preparatory High School have had to grow up fast – first simply to survive, and later to build some kind of life on this foreign moon. But conflict rears its ugly head again as The Horde begins conscripting athletes to raise an army, separating and scattering the other survivors throughout New London. And as the growing threat of an upcoming massacre approaches, time is quickly running out to salvage the society Bay Point has become...

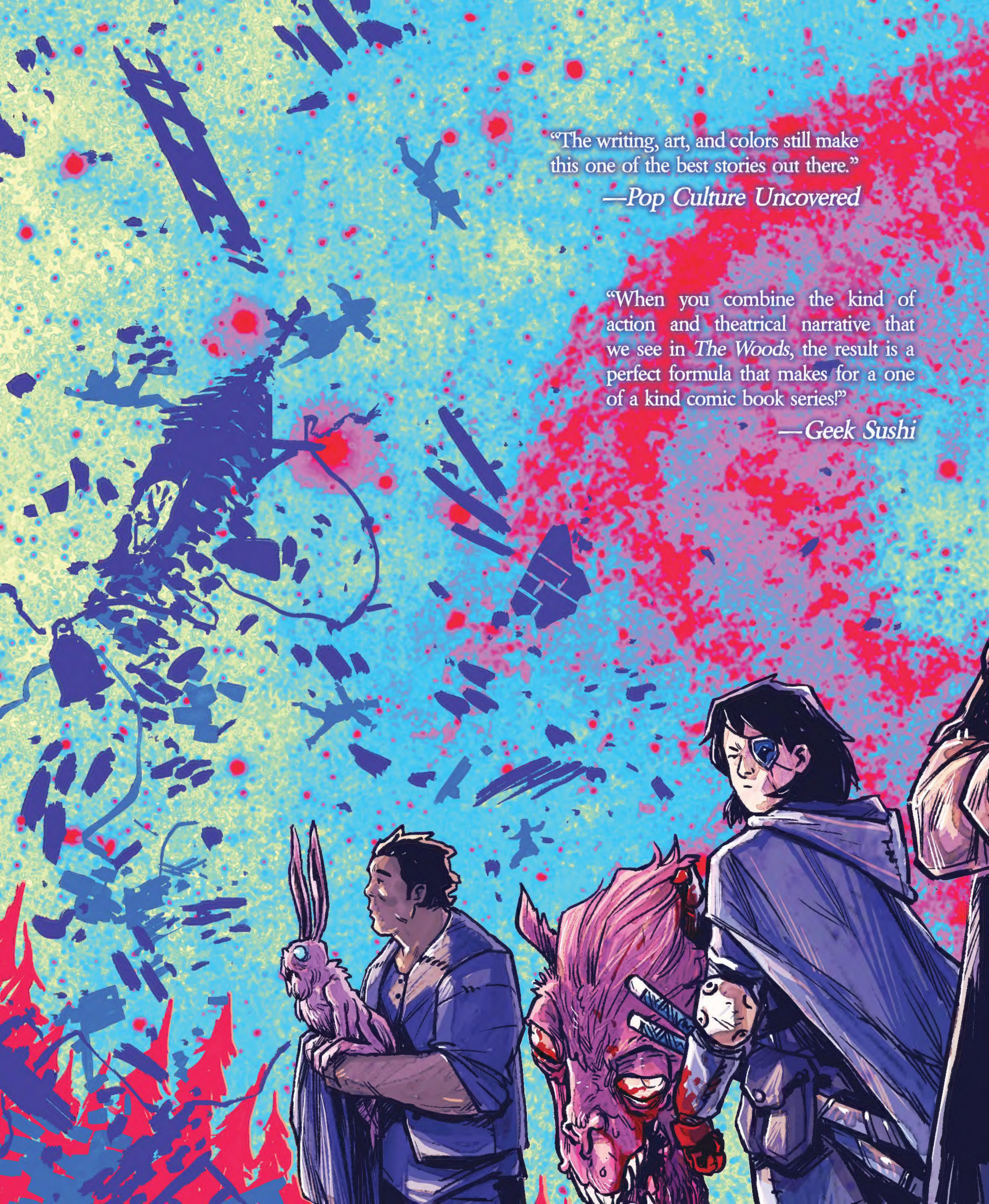
Written by **James Tynion IV** *(Detective Comics, Memetic)* and illustrated by **Michael Dialynas** *(Gotham Academy, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles)*, **"The Lost"** collects the critically acclaimed sixth arc of the best-selling series.

"The writing, art, and colors still make this one of the best stories out there."

—Pop Culture Uncovered

"When you combine the kind of action and theatrical narrative that we see in *The Woods*, the result is a perfect formula that makes for a one of a kind comic book series!"

—Geek Sushi



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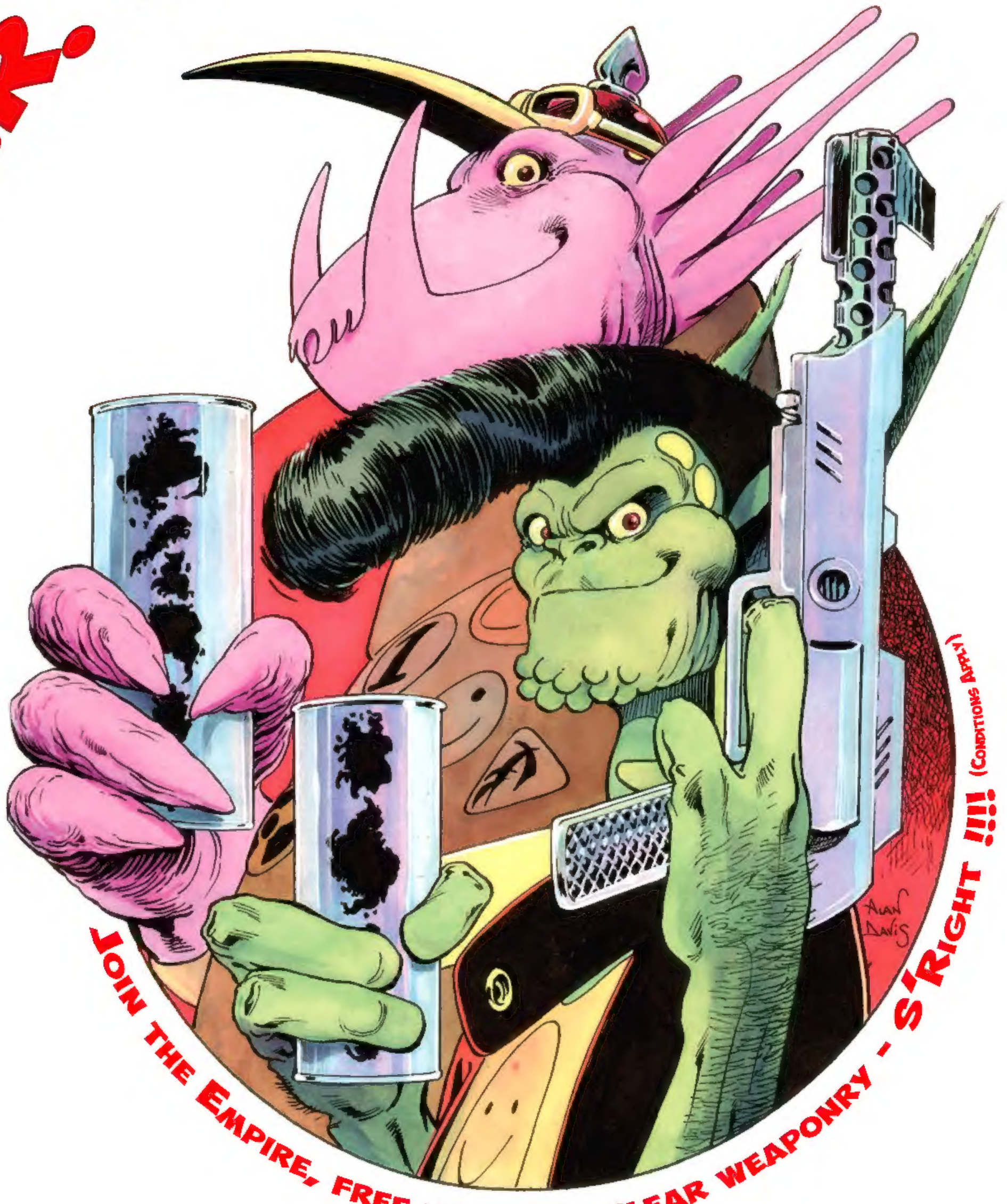

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K6 NW